

Looking For an Angel

During this time of economic challenge in our country, there are some families in our school who have been particularly and temporarily effected by the economic slow down. Due to job loss, sudden homelessness and other circumstances, several families from SEAS, OLA and Sacred Heart who have enrolled in the school have lost their main source of income.

St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School
AQUINAS

Love of God, Love of Learning in the Catholic Tradition

One such family recently survived a devastating illness. Though God has greatly blessed them with new found health, they have been left with overwhelming medical bills and a reduced income to pay them during recovery.

As a parish family of faith we know the importance of keeping children in a stable environment. In order to ensure this stability the school community is creatively addressing this need in order to keep the children enrolled in the school while their families get back on their feet. Each of these families are working with the school to pay their bills but they are finding it almost impossible to close the gap between what they are able to pay at this time and the actual cost of tuition. This is why the school is reaching out to our parish families to ask for temporary help for these children.



In every environment and every age the Church ventures to educate the next generation so they may "put out into the deep" and evangelize the world.



St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School has always been dedicated to the mission of focusing on a quality, Christ-centered education dedicated to the development of the whole person in an atmosphere of Truth and love. To provide this kind of education the tuition charged to each family accounts for a portion of the total cost of educating the children. The balance of this cost is funded through diocesan financial grants, fundraising and other programs. The School would like to thank all of those from our parish family who have generously contributed to drawing these children and others closer to Christ by supporting our mission.

Can you help?

If you would like to make a donation to Tuition Angels - or would like to discuss it further, please contact
Sister Maria Goretti, O.P. Principal of
St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School at
703.491.4447 ext. 217

You may also send your tax deductible gifts to
STARS directly:
Sister Maria Goretti, O.P.
c/o St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School, 13750
Mary's Way
Woodbridge, VA 22191
www.aquinastars.org/tuitionangels



Some Frequently Asked Questions

This is a challenging time for many of us, and there are many who are not able to help, but among us there are people who are able to make a generous sacrifice to aid these children and their families.

I can only give a few dollars, will it even help?

YES! Whether it is \$5 or \$5,000, a "Tuition Angel" helps these children continue and expand their education. Through your generosity the children will not only learn about Christ, but they will see the Gospel lived by experiencing the care, generosity and love of others in their broader parish family.

What is the difference between "Tuition Angels" and "Financial Aid"?

Tuition Angels is for those families who are experiencing temporary hardships. They may be unexpectedly out of work, have experienced a severe medical condition, or some other unforeseen circumstance. For these families, they could not foresee an inability to meet tuition payments at the beginning of the year. Until a grant is awarded, the family is still responsible for the balance of their tuition commitment.

I happen to know a family in this situation, can I specify my donation to them?

Yes! As a "Tuition Angel" you can donate to the general Tuition Angel Fund or you may designate your donation to a specific family who you know is in need.

Is any family who has missed tuition payments automatically enrolled in this program?

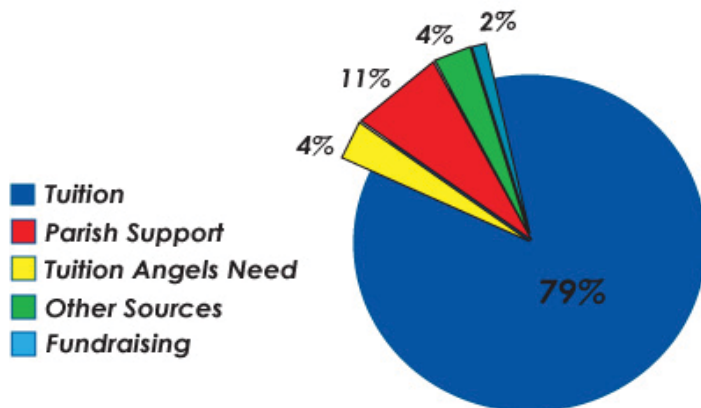
No, to receive this help the applying family has to meet specific qualifications along with a personal commitment to greater involvement in the parish community as we all reach out to the needs of others. As we generously commit our financial help to their family, we ask that they commit their time and talents to the entire parish community as we all continue to journey towards our heavenly goal.



Prayer of St. Thomas

Grant me, O Lord my God,
A mind to know you,
A heart to seek you,
Wisdom to find you,
Conduct pleasing to you,
Faithful perseverance in waiting for you,
And a hope of finally embracing you.
Amen

Aquinas' Sources of Income



2008-2009

Need: \$18,385

Received: \$18,365

of Families Requesting Help:

9

Needy Families Assisted:

100%

2009-2010

Need: \$53,212

Received to date: \$25,500

of Families Requesting Help:

17

Families Assisted to Date:

50%